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in the compass of ten pages the basis for an understanding of their temper, their motives and the treatment to which they were subjected. From the letters which passed between "R. H." and the Committee of Correspondence for Kent County it is evident that those committees not only organized the revolutionary sentiment but that they brought severe pressure to bear upon those whose opinions did not square with their own. The dilemma in which a minister of the Church of England found himself placed after "the fatal day of the Declaration of Independence" is vividly brought out by Parson Odell's account of his arrest and exile. A bitter attack upon the Tories, published in the *Pennsylvania Packet*, shows the almost frenzied hatred which even in the middle year of the war the loyalists still excited.

Still more interesting is Judge Curwen's account of the lot of a refugee in London. He tells of the Americans whom he met, of the financial straits to which he was reduced until given an annuity by the government. Yet through it all he looks upon his London life as a banishment, and finds no support for his drooping courage but the hope of once more revisiting his native land.

A glance through the chapter headings cannot fail to convince the student and the "general reader," as well, that a rich treasure-house is here opened. The extracts number 220, varying in length from twenty lines to eight or nine pages. As a rule they are quite a little shorter than those comprised in the earlier volume. In literary character and quality they are of the most diverse. Court records, governors' messages, town-meeting proceedings, letters, selections from diaries, ballads, satires, etc., all find a place. Yet so orderly is their grouping that from this volume alone an intelligent reader may give himself the delight of calling vividly to mind a century's varied thought and action.

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*L'Ouvrier Américain.* By E. LEVASSEUR. Two volumes. Pp. 634 and 516. Price, 20 francs. Paris: L. Larose, 1898.

Professor Levasseur, the author of the present work, is already well and favorably known to American students of economics through his numerous works in economic history and social statistics. He is an indefatigable worker. His "*Histoire des Classes Ouvrières en France*" and "*La Population Française*," the former in four and the latter in three large volumes, are monuments of industry and investigation.

Professor Levasseur first came to the United States in 1876. In 1893 he returned for a more extended visit. Though brought by the desire to see the Chicago Exposition, he came specially commissioned by the Academy of Moral and Political Sciences of France to study and report upon the conditions of labor and industry in the United States. In the execution of this task he spent much time visiting important industrial establishments, interviewing economists, leaders of labor organizations and officers of institutions of all kinds and collecting documentary material. Since his return to France he has devoted himself to the study of the economic problems of America, his numerous university courses having related chiefly to this subject. The results of this study and investigation are now given to the public in the present work.

To his task Professor Levasseur brings the qualities of both a trained statistician and an economist. As a statistician he has made every effort to marshal in an orderly and unbiased manner all available data throwing light upon the economic conditions of laborers in America. As an economist he seeks to determine the causes for the conditions that as an investigator he finds to exist, and to some extent to predict the probable movement of economic forces in the future.

As a result of his efforts, there is presented in these two volumes an enormous amount of information concerning the conditions of the working classes in this country. As a foreigner he sees many things of significance which, on account of their very commonplace character, escape the attention of American students. That there are errors among this collection of details goes without saying, but as errors of detail only, they do not prevent the work as a whole from being the most complete and correct analysis of labor conditions in America that has yet appeared. The work shows a thorough knowledge of the best sources of information. Professor Levasseur has not, however, been dominated by his authorities. The extent to which he made personal investigations of conditions and his acuteness as an observer, are constantly in evidence.

The author has not made the mistake of considering the labor question as one merely of wages, hours of labor and strikes. He has seen that the problem really involves every element in any way entering into the lives of workingmen. The following list of chapter titles shows how comprehensively the work has been carried out. Part I, entitled "The Workingman at Work," contains chapters on the progress of industry in America during the past fifty years; the productivity and equipment of labor; labor and factory legislation; labor organizations; wages of men; wages of women and children;

the sweating system; competition through immigration, negro and prison labor; strikes, lockouts, boycotts and blacklists; industrial depressions and unemployment, and a critical concluding chapter on the causes regulating nominal wages. Part II, entitled "The Workingman at Home," treats, in separate chapters, of workingmen's food, clothing and housing; of building and loan associations; savings and mutual benefit societies, and real wages and the relation of earnings and expenditures. Part III is devoted to a consideration of particular labor problems. It is in this part, and in the concluding chapters of the first two parts that the economist replaces the statistician. The special subjects treated are large fortunes and democracy in America; the protective system; poor relief; employers' work for their employes and profit sharing; co-operation, arbitration and conciliation; socialism, and finally, as a general summing up under the title of "the author's point of view," the condition of the American workingman at the present time and twenty or thirty years hence.

In a work of this character the main interest to the American student naturally lies in the general conclusions of the author concerning conditions and problems here, and their contrast with conditions in his own country. Thus, he wishes to know, for example, what is the author's opinion regarding the relative standard of living of the working classes in the two countries, their rates of wages, condition of food, housing, etc.; what has been in his opinion the effect of the protective system on labor; his attitude concerning labor organizations, etc. These matters are very fully discussed by the author, particularly in the concluding chapters of the second volume.

With regard to wages, Professor Levasseur finds that nominal wages in the United States are about double the wages in France. He also finds that objects of ordinary consumption by working people, excepting dwelling houses, cost less in the cities of the United States than in those of France, and that as a result not only the nominal, but also the real wages of American workingmen are more than double those of French workingmen. Having a higher actual wage, the American workingman, in general, lives better than the European; eats more substantially; dresses better; is more comfortably housed, and more often owns his dwelling; spends more for life insurance, etc.; in short, he has a much higher standard of life than the European workingman. From this point of view, says the author, it may be rightly said that the cost of living is high in the United States, and that while the purchasing power of money is not any less than in Europe, the

expenses necessary to maintain a certain rank in society are much greater.

While wages are higher in the United States, Professor Levasseur also finds that the productivity of the American workingman is, on the average, greater than that of most European workers. Being accustomed to work with powerful, ingenious and rapid machinery, the former is in general more industrious and active.

With regard to labor organizations, the author finds that in America their chief object is collective resistance or opposition to the power of the employer, rather than mutual benefit, such as sick relief or insurance, as is the case in France. Professor Levasseur believes that labor organizations should be permitted, and that they should be given a legal status in all the states. At the same time, the law should impose upon them serious conditions of responsibility, and should prevent them, as much as possible, from degenerating into engines of oppression.

In expressing his views of the future, the author says that American industry will continue to found numerous large establishments and enlarge those which exist, and for this purpose will have more and more recourse to association. As the industrial enterprises become larger and require more capital, it will be necessary to organize stock companies, which have the triple advantage of facilitating large accumulations, of limiting individual risks, and of affording opportunities for the investment of small savings. American industry will continue to perfect its machinery which will operate to concentrate manufactures more and more. "Machinery, association of capital, concentration," says the author, "will be the pole of attraction of American industry during the first quarter of the twentieth century." These circumstances will have a tendency to lower the prices of manufactures in America, notwithstanding the high wages paid, and as a consequence the author believes that the chances are favorable for a successful conquest of foreign markets.

Taken all in all the author presents a very optimistic view of the future of American industry. This is particularly emphasized in his concluding remarks, in which he says: "I have no doubt but that the twentieth century, notwithstanding the claims of agitators, will see a still greater increase in the prosperity of the United States. Even if that century will not succeed any more than the present in finding a chimerical solution for the adjustment of pending questions, it will be very likely to improve in many ways the present condition of the working classes, as has

already been done, especially in the last half of the nineteenth century.''

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*Township and Borough.* Being the Ford Lectures, delivered in the University of Oxford in the October Term of 1897. Together with an Appendix of Notes relating to the History of the Town of Cambridge. By F. W. MAITLAND. Pp. 220. Price, 10s. Cambridge: University Press, 1898.

The second series of the Ford lectures was given at Oxford last winter. By a pleasant act of inter-university courtesy Professor Maitland of Cambridge was the lecturer and a group of questions suggested by the early history of the town of Cambridge was the subject. Moreover a running fire of half-sarcastic banter of the institution in which he was speaking must have added considerably to the interest of the lecturer to his academic hearers. He apologizes for talking of the open fields of Cambridge by asking what else the Oxford men have left him to talk about—"What other fields has Oxford left unworked?" and remarks that "the oldest of all inter-university sports was a lying match."

And to tell the truth, his text needed all of Professor Maitland's usual humor to lighten it up as a subject for semi-public lectures. Interesting as the general subject of economico-legal history is, and important as the points at issue seem to those of us who are already interested in them, yet the particular stage which the investigation has now reached, largely negative and entirely critical, is not such as to make it very well suited for even an academic audience. The broad generalizations and suggestive analogies which made the lectures of Sir Henry Maine so interesting and exhilarating to people previously uninterested belong now to a past age of study. They have been largely discredited, or have come to be recognized as merely interesting facts and superficial similarities among distantly related institutions. We have advanced to a part of the field which requires more detailed study and a more critical method; and this kind of work is more fitted for print than for the spoken word. Professor Maitland's subject is the distinction, in their origin and in their history, between the merely rural manor and the organized town community. His study of this problem is based principally upon a number of previously unpublished and almost unused documents from among the records of the borough of Cambridge. His